# Executive Proclamation
## State of South Dakota
## Office of the Governor

***Whereas***, Bullying is physical, verbal, sexual, or emotional harm or intimidation directed at a person or group of people, and occurs in neighborhoods, playgrounds, schools, and through technology, such as the Internet; and,

***Whereas***, Various researchers have concluded that bullying is the most common form of violence, affecting millions of American children and adolescents annually; and,

***Whereas***, Hundreds of South Dakota children and adolescents are targets of bullying annually; and,

***Whereas***, Targets of bullying are more likely to acquire physical, emotional, and learning problems, and students who are repeatedly bullied often fear such activities as riding the bus, going to school, and attending community activities; and,

***Whereas***, Children who bully are at greater risk of engaging in more serious violent behaviors; and,

***Whereas***, A large percentage of children who are bullied believe adult help is infrequent and ineffective; and,

***Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds,*** Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim October 4-10, 2009, as

## BULLYING PREVENTION AWARENESS WEEK

in South Dakota.

***In Witness Whereof***, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Eighteenth Day of September in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Nine.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

**Attest:**

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State